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EXCISE

SCS

523

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C.

3/13/78

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY John Simms DATE 2-26-81
PORTIONS DENIED AS IN[illegible]

Hon. Cyrus Vance
Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington,D.C.

Sir:

The attached communication is sent for your consideration. Please investigate the statements contained therein and forward to the necessary information to reply, corresponding with your answer.

Very truly,

PHILLIP BURTON

Please respond to:

11104 Federal Building
450 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, Ca. 94102

dc

[redacted]

E.P.6

[redacted] E B6

February 28, 1978

RECEIVED
MAR 3 1978

Honorable Philip Burton
Representative in Congress
450 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mr. Burton:

I am enclosing copies of letters I have written to the Prime Minister of Guyana and to the U.S. Secretary of State asking for assistance in contacting [redacted] who are members of the People's Temple, a E B6
communal church led by a Mr. Jim Jones. I am also enclosing my resume, for purposes of identification.

I would appreciate any assistance that you may be able to give me in contacting my two sons. I wish to see them personally in a situation that may enable them to make a relatively independent decision as to whether they would want to return to the United States or to stay in Guyana.

I will be most happy to provide you with any additional information if you so wish.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted] E B6

Enc. Copies of 2 letters
Copy of resume

[redacted] E 6b

February 6, 1978

His Excellency, Forbes Burnham
Prime Minister
Georgetown, Guyana
South America

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I would like to express to you my grave concern about [redacted] who are now E 6b
living in Guyana with the People's Temple--a communal church led by Mr. Jim Jones.

I have not heard from them for almost two years and my letters to the Temple
have not been forwarded to them, but have been returned to me. [redacted] E 6b
who was also in the Temple, left it two years ago. From her, I have learned
a variety of things that have occurred and are practiced in the People's Temple.
Some of these include the public beating of church members, their degradation
before the assembled congregation, the signing of self-incriminating statements,
and so on. I personally have been shown, by a Mr. Chaikin, one of the Temple
attorneys, a copy of one such self-incriminating statement. At the time I
was shown the statement, [redacted] and other Temple representatives were telling me E 6b
that [redacted] was having sexual relations with her foster father, in order
(I suspect) to enlist my support in returning her to Temple membership. I came
to the conclusion, in my contacts with Temple representatives, that the Temple
is a very powerful organization which is paranoid in philosophy (society will
attempt to crush us) and is very secretive concerning its operations. I also
came to the conclusion that it systematically limits the information and news
received by its members concerning the rest of society, and by persuasion and
coercion actively attempts to prevent defectors from its ranks.

I am writing you in the hope that your government might be able to assist me E 6b
in personally contacting [redacted] I would like to see them in such a situation
as might make it possible for them to make a relatively free choice to leave
or stay in the Temple. Friends of mine have contacted their children after
considerable effort and expense, only to meet their children surrounded by Temple
members, and only after their children had apparently been subjected to great
psychological pressure under conditions of sleep deprivation.

I also hope that your government might consider investigating Temple affairs and
behavior in your country, as well as making itself familiar with Temple activi-
ties in the United States. I personally have met and have in the past supported
Mr. Jones and the Temple when they were based in Ukiah, California. However,
when I learned of its various activities, which I believe have seriously vio ated
the Civil Rights of its members, I began to oppose it.

I would appreciate your responding to me concerning my request for assistance
in my efforts to reach [redacted] (Christian, age 22, and Michael, E 6b
age 20) at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted] E 6b

P.S. I am enclosing my resume to identify myself.

[redacted] E BC

February 6, 1978

The Honorable Cyrus Vance
Secretary of State
U.S. State Department
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I would like to express to you my grave concern about [redacted] who are now living in Guyana--with the People's Temple--a communal church led by Mr. Jim Jones. E BC

I have not heard from them for almost two years and my letters to the Temple have not been forwarded to them, but have been returned to me. [redacted] E BC who was also in the Temple, left it two years ago. From her, I have learned a variety of things that have occurred and are practiced in the People's Temple. Some of these include the public beating of church members, their degradation before the assembled congregation, the signing of self-incriminating statements, and so on. I personally have been shown, by a Mr. Chaikin, one of the Temple attorneys, a copy of one such self-incriminating statement. At the time I was shown the statement, he and other Temple representatives were telling me that [redacted] was having sexual relations with her foster father, in order (I suspect) to enlist my support in returning her to Temple membership. I came to the conclusion, in my contacts with Temple representatives, that the Temple is a very powerful organization which is paranoid in philosophy (society will attempt to crush us) and is very secretive concerning its operations. I also came to the conclusion that it systematically limits the information and news received by its members concerning the rest of society, and by persuasion and coercion actively attempts to prevent defectors from its ranks. E BC

I am writing you in the hope that the State Department might be able to assist me in personally contacting [redacted] I would like to see them in such a situation as might make it possible for them to make a relatively free choice to leave or stay in the Temple. Friends of mine have contacted their children after considerable effort and expense, only to meet their children surrounded by Temple members, and only after their children had apparently been subjected to great psychological pressure under conditions of sleep deprivation. E BC

I also hope that the State Department and other government departments might consider investigating Temple affairs both in Guyana and in the United States. I consider it a reasonable possibility that the Temple, having sizeable amounts of United States dollars in its possession, may eventually be able to subvert the government of Guyana--a small underdeveloped and unsophisticated country. If the latter occurs, it would certainly not be in the interests of the United States.

I would appreciate your responding to me concerning my request for assistance in my efforts to reach [redacted]-Christian, age 22, and Micnael, age 20) in Guyana at your earliest convenience. E BC

Sincerely yours,

[redacted] E BC

P.S. I am enclosing my resume to identify myself.